

# Kumu's News

## Kumu's Cupboard Newsletter, July 2025

### Kumu's Cupboard's Welcomes You to the 2025-2026 School Year

Where did summer go? It seems it just started and we are already preparing for the back-to-school season. We hope that you enjoy the remaining weeks of summer. Kumu's Cupboard will reopen on Tuesday, July 22nd with special back-to-school hours during the first two weeks. Regular hours will resume on Friday, August 1st. This year we will hold a special shopping day for new hires on Saturday, July 26th. All details about hours can be found in this newsletter.

You'll notice that we've reorganized some of the sections in the store. We've added new items, as well. Please be sure to take an inventory sheet when you shop as some item limits have changed.

Thanks to those of you that completed the shopping survey in May. You had some great ideas for new items. Although we aren't able to fulfill all of your wishes, we did purchase many of the items you asked for. We also discovered from your comments that some of the asked for items we already stock. If you don't find what you want, please ask a volunteer. If we carry it, we can help you find it. Also, please remember that you can leave suggestions for new items when you check out or by emailing us at: [kumuscupboard1@gmail.com](mailto:kumuscupboard1@gmail.com). We don't make any promises but do our best to meet your needs. The more specific you are the easier it is for us to find what you want. Another way to get special supplies is to apply for a mini grant. See the newsletter for more details.

Based on your survey suggestions, we are offering a special shopping list for the month of July. We hope that the raised limits on some items offer some help with the start of school supplies.

Kumu's Cupboard will once again be holding an online auction through Malama Auctions beginning July 25th. You can find the auction through Malama Auctions: <https://www.malamaauctions.com>

We'll also post the link on our website.

Kumu's Cupboard's board members and volunteers are excited to support you and your students during the coming school year. We look forward to seeing old friends and making new ones.

#### Kumu's Cupboard Contact Information

PO Box 3650  
Lihue, 96766  
808-647-6989  
[kumuscupboard@gmail.com](mailto:kumuscupboard@gmail.com)  
[www.kumuscupboard.org](http://www.kumuscupboard.org)

Kumu's Cupboard is Kauai's nonprofit that provides FREE school supplies to teachers and other educational staff. Our store is located in Kukui Grove Center, near Target, in Lihue.

Kumu's Cupboard's space is generously provided by Kukui Grove Center.



#### Special Back-to-School Hours

Tuesday, July 22

10am–2pm

Wednesday, July 23

10am–2pm

Thursday, July 24

10am–2pm

Saturday, July 26

10am–2pm

#### NEW HIRES ONLY

Monday, July 28

9am–1pm

Tuesday, July 29

3pm–6:30pm

Thursday, July 31

3pm–6:30pm

#### Regular Store Hours

#### Resume Friday August 1

Tuesdays: 3pm–6:30pm

Fridays: 3pm–6:30pm

Saturdays: 10am–3pm

Sundays: 1pm–4pm

#### 2025–2026 Store Closures

Statehood Day: 8/16–8/18

Labor Day: 8/29–8/31

Fall Break: 10/3–10/10

Thanksgiving: 11/28–11/30

Winter Break: 12/19–1/2

President's Day: 2/13–2/15

Spring Break: 3/13–3/20

Holiday Weekend: 4/3–4/5

Charity Walk: 5/1–5/2

Memorial Day: 5/22–5/24

Closed for summer:

5/27–late July

## Backpacks for Students in Need

If you have students without backpacks and needed supplies, Kumu's Cupboard can help. We continue to have backpacks ready to pick up at three different grade level bands; K-1st, 2nd-5th and Middle School/High School. These backpacks have the basic supplies for students.

You may come in **after the school year starts** to pick up needed back packs. You don't have to wait for your shopping day to do so. We ask that you only take the backpacks if you have a student or students in need of them.

We will keep these stocked all through the school year.



## Have You Checked Out the Lending Service?



Have you checked out Kumu's Cupboard's Lending Service?

We have over 80 items available for check out including math and science materials and teaching kits, literature sets, musical instruments, large class games and more.

New to the lending service:

- Corn Hole game
- Set of 12 Kanone games
- Die Cut Machine

Coming Soon:

- Kapa cloth kit

You can find a listing of the available items in the store or on our website under "for Educators."



## Mini Grants Are Back

Kumu's Cupboard will once again offer mini grants for the Fall semester. The mini grants are a great way to get supplies for a special project, needed and wanted materials for the classroom, and items to enhance your teaching.

Grants are up to \$250 per educator. New this year, if you have a project that exceeds the \$250 limit, you may contact Elyse Litvack at [kumuscupboard1@gmail.com](mailto:kumuscupboard1@gmail.com) or 808-647-6989 to find out how to request an increase in the grant amount.

The grant application is designed to be quick and easy to complete. Providing resources and/or links for the items you want is very helpful. Grants are up to \$250 per educator. Grants will be accepted between August 11<sup>th</sup> and August 24<sup>th</sup>. You will be notified if your grant is funded. Once you are notified that your grant materials are at Kumu's Cupboard, we ask that you pick them up within a two-week period. See the grant application attached to this newsletter.

We thank The Doyle Foundation for funding this year's mini grants.

## Make a Real Impact for Kumu's Cupboard

### Become Our Social Media Volunteer!

Kumu's Cupboard is in need of a new social media volunteer. We thank Shana Brown for the amazing job she has done with this over that past years.

Our social media is where we share our projects, spread information about upcoming events, give shout-outs to donors, advertise fundraising efforts, and highlight the amazing work from educators who benefit from Kumu's Cupboard. Our Social Media Volunteer currently posts to Instagram and Facebook and interacts with our followers through our professional dashboards.

Please contact us at [kumuscupboard1@gmail.com](mailto:kumuscupboard1@gmail.com) or 808-647-6989 to volunteer or to learn more about what this entails. We need YOU!

**Mini Grant Application**  
**August 2025**

The mini grants are available to help provide materials for teaching a unit or doing a project or getting needed supplies for your classroom. Applications are accepted August 11<sup>th</sup> – August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Grant applications must be submitted through email at: kumuscupboard1@gmail.com.

Grants are for up to \$250 per applicant. If you have a project or need supplies that exceed this amount, please contact Elyse Litvack at: kumuscupboard1@gmail.com or 808-647-6989. We have \$8,000 allocated for this project. If completed applications exceed the allotment, we will select the projects to be funded although grants may be funded in the order received.

Applicants agree that they will pick up the materials within two weeks of notification that they are available, and that they will teach the unit or use the materials during the Fall semester of the 2025-2026 school year. Applicants understand that they will be required to complete a grant agreement when picking up supplies and then complete and return a simple grant evaluation no later than December 15, 2025.

**Teacher information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ grade or subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of students benefiting from grant: \_\_\_\_\_

**Unit/Project Information:**

Title of unit/project for which you are requesting supplies: \_\_\_\_\_

Subjects taught through the unit/project: \_\_\_\_\_

List the items needed, both consumable and non-consumable, and prioritize what you'd like to have. For the selected projects, we'll order from your prioritized list. That amount includes tax and shipping when applicable. Providing sources and/or links for the materials is very helpful and appreciated. (Add an additional sheet if needed.)

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Teacher Signature

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Date

Kumu's Cupboard invites you to our

# ONLINE AUCTION

SAVE THE DATE!

*Bid on hotel stays, adventures, and much more!*



STARTS  
JULY  
**25**

**MALAMA  
AUCTIONS  
ONLINE**



*Kumu's Cupboard, providing free classroom supplies to Kauai's educators*

For more information please contact:

[kumuscupboard@gmail.com](mailto:kumuscupboard@gmail.com)